



**EXPRESS MAIL RECEIPT NO. 402338769US**  
**DEPOSITED ON: June 14, 2004**

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Application No. : 10/764,669                      Confirmation No.: 8798**  
**Applicant(s) : Thomas J. Luby**  
**Filed : 01/26/2004**  
**TC/A.U. : 3754**  
**Examiner : Unknown**  
**Title : WET WELL VALVE**  
**Docket No. : 5671.051**  
**Customer No. : 30589**

**Mail Stop IDS**  
**Commissioner for Patents**  
**P.O. Box 1450**  
**Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

**Remarks Accompanying the**  
**Information Disclosure Statement**

Submitted herewith is an Information Disclosure Statement, Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Form 1449/PTO (Modified)), and copies of references cited.

Respectfully submitted,

*Marc Brockhaus*

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**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

<b>Application No. :</b>	<b>10/764,669</b>	<b>Confirmation No.:</b>	<b>8798</b>
<b>Applicant(s) :</b>	<b>Thomas J. Luby</b>		
<b>Filed :</b>	<b>01/26/2004</b>		
<b>TC/A.U. :</b>	<b>3754</b>		
<b>Examiner :</b>	<b>Unknown</b>		
<b>Title :</b>	<b>WET WELL VALVE</b>		
<b>Docket No. :</b>	<b>5671.051</b>		
<b>Customer No. :</b>	<b>30589</b>		

**Mail Stop**  
**Commissioner for Patents**  
**P.O. Box 1450**  
**Arlington, VA 22313-1450**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

**List of Sections Forming Part of This  
Information Disclosure Statement**

The following sections are being submitted for this Information Disclosure Statement:

1. ☒ Preliminary Statements
2. ☒ Form PTO-1449 (Modified)
3. ☐ Statement as to Information Not Found in Patents or Publications
4. ☐ Identification of Prior Application in Which Listed Information Was Already Cited and for Which No Copies Are Submitted or Need Be Submitted
5. ☐ Cumulative Patents or Publications

- 6.    ☒    Copies of Listed Information Items Accompanying this Statement
- 7.    ☐    Concise Explanation of Non-English Language Listed Information Items
  - 7A.   ☐    EPO Search Report
  - 7B.   ☐    English Language Version
- 8.    ☐    Translation(s) of Non-English Language Documents
- 9.    ☐    Concise Explanation of English Language Listed Information Items (Optional)
- 10.   ☒    Identification of Person(s) Making this Information Disclosure Statement

## **Section 1.        Preliminary Statements**

Applicants submit herewith patents, publications or other information of which they are aware, which they believe may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.

## **Section 2.        Form PTO-1449 (Modified)**

☒    A Completed Form PTO-1449 (Modified) is attached hereto.

### **Section 3. Statement as to Information Not Found in Patents or Publications (Information Not Listed in Form PTO-1449(Modified))**

The present invention relates generally to valves, and more particularly, but not by way of limitation, to a valve for placing sensors through vessel walls.

Electrical power transformers of the size and capacity used by commercial power utilities to maintain primary transmission line voltage are normally charged with a petroleum fluid called insulating or dielectric oil for the dual purpose of insulating the primary and secondary transformer windings, each from the other, and also as a cooling medium to remove inductance heat from the proximity of the transformer core and windings.

Such dielectric oil is also used in relays, switches, oil circuit breakers, and other large capacity power transmission equipment. For brevity, the following description will hereafter be related to transformers, but it will be understood that all such oil insulated transmission devices are included.

In operation, the oil reservoir of such transformers is sealed from the atmosphere. However, if the unit is to be moved from one operating location to another, it is often necessary to remove the oil for weight reduction.

Oil is also removed from a transformer periodically to filter an accumulation of colloiddally dispersed carbon particles from the fluid which develop due to localized overheating of the hydrocarbon substance in the course of operation.

It is during these occasions of field removal and recharging that opportunity is given for moisture infusion into the system. The primary objection to moisture in the oil charge is that water concentrations above a very low threshold percentage reduce the dielectric characteristic of the oil (increase the conductance) sufficiently to permit arcing across the windings. Consequently, rapid thermal dissociation of the hydrocarbon compounds occurs to generate catastrophic pressure increases within the sealed transformer housing. Transformer explosion is the terminal result.

Although great care is normally taken during the oil charging and cleaning process, precautionary procedures are, nevertheless, subject to occasional human failure. As a result of such occasional failures and the enormous expense for repair or replacement of the damaged equipment, the consequent economic burden is a significant factor in the operating overhead of utility companies.

Transmission units and other hydraulic systems may also become contaminated with water as a result of working in wet or damp environments. Water will cause an increase in both parts of the oil's complex permittivity.

In addition, the oil may be filtered too soon. Other useful properties in the oil allow the oil to be reused.

To this end, a need exists for a valve that will permit the placement of a sensor, detecting oil quality, through a vessel wall without exposing the oil to the environment. It is to such a valve that the present invention is directed.

**Section 4. Identification of Prior Application in Which Listed Information Was Already Cited and for Which No Copies Are Submitted or Need Be Submitted**

This application relies, under 35 U.S.C. § 120, on the earlier filing date of prior application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed on \_\_\_\_\_ (date).

*(complete the following, if applicable)*

[ ] This application also relies, under 35 U.S.C. 120, on the earlier filing date of prior application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed on \_\_\_\_\_ (date).

The following references were submitted to, and/or cited by, the Office in the prior application(s) and therefore, are not required to be provided in this application:

**Section 5. Cumulative Patents or Publications**

**STATEMENT**

\_\_\_\_\_ is cumulative of the following patents or publications listed on Form PTO-1449:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(c), a copy of only \_\_\_\_ is being submitted with this Information Disclosure Statement.

**Section 6. Copies of Listed Information Items Accompanying this Statement**

Legible copies of all items listed in Form PTO-1449 (Modified) accompany this information disclosure statement.

☐ Exception(s) to above:

☐ Items in prior application from which an earlier filing date is claimed for this application, as identified in Section 4.

☐ Cumulative patents or publications identified in Section 5.

## **Section 7. Concise Explanation of Non-English Language Listed Information Items**

### **Section 7A. Concise Explanation of Non-English Language Listed Information Items - EPO Search Report**

The relevance with respect to the following citations listed on Form PTO-1449:

is submitted on the basis of accompanying:

*(check the appropriate item)*

☐ EPO search report that is in the English language,

☐ EPO search report that is not in the English language and that is accompanied also by an English language version of the EPO search report,

that issued on the corresponding European patent application.

### **Section 7B. Concise Explanation of Non-English Language Listed Information Items - English Language Version of EPO Search Report**

## **Section 8. Translation(s) of Non-English Language Documents**

- ☐ Submitted herewith is an English translation of the following foreign language patents, publications or information or of those portions of those patents, publications or information considered to be material:

*(complete the following, if applicable)*

- ☐ No English language translations of the foreign language patents, publications or information or parts thereof are readily available, except for those listed above.
- ☐ The following foreign language documents submitted are believed to be the equivalent or substantial equivalent of the English language documents identified below, which are also submitted herewith.

## **Section 9. Concise Explanation of English Language Listed Information Items (OPTIONAL)**

## **Section 10. Identification of Person(s) Making this INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

The person making this statement is the attorney who signs below on the basis of the information:

- ☐ supplied by the inventor(s)
- ☐ supplied by an individual associated with the filing and prosecution of this application (37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c)).

[X] in the attorney's file

Respectfully submitted,

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Express Mail: EV 402338769 US  
Date Deposited: June 14, 2004

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known	
Application Number	10/764,669
Filing Date	01/26/2004
First Named Inventor	Thomas J. Luby
Group Art Unit	3754
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	5671.051

### U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAM INIT.	Cite No. 1	U.S. PATENT NUMBER Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (If known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM- DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	AA	5211202		Zink et al.	05-18-1993	
	AB	5386845		Zink	02-07-1995	

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAM INIT.	Cite No. 1	Foreign Patent Document Office 3 Number 4 Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (If known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		None				

**U.S. and Foreign:** <sup>1</sup>Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup>See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard St.3). <sup>4</sup>Form Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard St. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

EXAM INIT.	PATENT DOCUMENTS Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published
BA	Dry well "Pockets", <a href="http://www.hathawaycorp.com/productdetail.asp?ID=5">www.hathawaycorp.com/productdetail.asp?ID=5</a> , Qualitrol Corp., Contact Thermometer Maximum Thermometer Pressor Monitor - for Transformers, AB Kihlstr'o'ms Manometerfabrik, Bulletin 47E, 1999, Product Range - AKM Type, dimensions and technical data, <a href="http://www.akmsweden.com">www.akmsweden.com</a>
BB	Immersion Temperature Probe eliminates need for thermal well - PreCon National Sales Co., Pages 2-12, <a href="http://www.industrialnewsroom.com/fullstory/25586">www.industrialnewsroom.com/fullstory/25586</a>

**Non Patent Documents:** <sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature:

Date Considered:

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. \*\*Place of Publication refers to name of publication in which the information was published.